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extensive tables given in President Lowell's recent book on "Public Opinion and Popular Government". Especially valuable, however, is the enumeration and careful discussion of each of the specific cases in which the recall has been invoked.

Attention is given at all points to judicial construction, and a separate chapter is devoted to this phase of the matter. Inasmuch as the construction of the loose "home rule" provisions of the Oregon constitution presents the only problem of importance here and is, moreover, one of growing interest to the country at large, it is to be regretted that Mr. Hedges is not more careful in his treatment of the cases in point. He could hardly be asked to arrive at any very certain conclusions about this matter; if he is to be blamed at all, it is because of his over-confident assumption that the cases will bear generalization.

Criticism and evaluation are outside the obvious intent of the book, and the author's commendable restraint in this regard is illustrated by his final chapter of "Comment"—a matter of only four pages. He discreetly presumes that, although "the people of Oregon cannot retreat now nor do they wish to," nevertheless their scheme is still in its infancy. One thing he shows clearly,—that whatever apathy or blindness there may be on the part of the voter may be attributed largely to the congestion of measures upon the ballot, and that this may be traced in turn to the irresponsible attitude of the public generally toward the signing of petitions. The author's constructive suggestions are two: first, a special court, which shall perform a function somewhat analogous to that of the judiciary committee in a state legislature and shall pass upon the constitutionality of any measure to be proposed under the initiative and referendum, prior even to the circulation of the petition; second, compulsory voting, as being logically imperative in view of the new responsibility which the electorate has imposed upon itself. Unfortunately, his rash declaration that the proposed abolition of the state senate may presage the complete disappearance of every representative body in the state, indicates a serious misunderstanding of the political philosophy underlying the People's Power League of Oregon, and tends to lessen one's confidence in the author's judgment.

"Where the People Rule" is modestly commended "to the lawyer, student and citizen alike." The student of government, whether as lawyer or citizen, will find it useful for reference.

Arthur W. Macmahon.

WAR AND INSURANCE. By JOSIAH ROYCE. New York: THE MACMILLAN Co. pp. xlviii, 96.

One of the lasting effects of the European war, which is just beginning to affect the American public, is the flood of literature upon the subject. This contribution may be characterized as speculative, a feature quite natural in view of the fact that the conflict has but begun, and a commentary thereon could hardly be expected. Through the instrumentality of the fiduciary trust, and of insurance, Mr. Royce outlines a novel scheme in the time-worn project of abolishing war. The system proposed is based on mutual insurance, but if a disgruntled nation prefers to forfeit its premium and take up the battle-flag, the author has suggested no method other than that of arms to enforce an international subpoena.